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HOMŒOPATHIA:—ITS ADVOCATES.

Those pernicious doctrines which constitute Allopathia; which for ages, have been received as true in medical treatment; make it easier to impose upon the sick and their friends the monstrous absurdities of that system; than to induce them to acknowledge, and firmly adhere to those clear, and established principles in the art of healing, which are found in homœopathia. The following from Sampson on Homœopathia is to the point:

"It will seem that, if the system be true, the daily cures which are sure to be performed under it must rapidly bring conviction to the public mind, and that consequently only a very short period can be expected to pass before its universal recognition. A little reflection, however, will convince us that these anticipations are not to be depended on, and that it is desirable for those who most clearly recognise the truth of the doctrine to prepare for a long, and what must oftentimes prove a

disheartening struggle, before it can be firmly established.

In the first place we must look at the generally slow progress of new doctrines, and we shall see that not unfrequently this slowness is in direct proportion to their real importance. The greatest doctrine ever bestowed upon mankind has now been preached for eighteen hundred years, and although every hour of each man's life might serve to illustrate its truth, it is still absolutely rejected by a large majority of the world, while it is also decried as "inapplicable," even by its professors, whenever it is insisted upon as the only true foundation for the actions alike of individuals and communities. If then a palpable truth, addressed to mankind at large, embracing every interest, and illustrated and confirmed by each passing fact, is thus derided by the many, and practically neglected, even where it is not derided, the advocate of a truth relating merely to a special department of physical science should be well prepared to submit to indifference and neglect, and should at the same time bear in mind, that its proportionably quicker progress can only result from its comparative insignificance. If great truths were usually such as could be generally received by the age to which they are presented, their discoverers, instead of being men in advance of their time, could merely be regarded as persons who had luckily stumbled upon a new thing which every one else was equally prepared to recognise and appreciate so soon as it should be similarly presented to them.

The respective degree of ability to recognise truth, forms the only distinction between different minds, and if a wholly novel truth were, in any case, simultaneously received with equal ardor and clearness by the trained and the untrained, (and by training I mean not merely intellectual but moral advantages,) we should then be entitled to infer that, as far

at least as such truth had been concerned, these respective conditions of mind had not been of the slightest importance. But we do not find this to be the case; and it is therefore the privilege of those who believe themselves to be engaged in a true cause, to believe also that by the hostility they are called upon to overcome, they may measure the height to which, as far as relates to that cause, they have reached beyond their fellows.

Judging therefore from the importance of Homœopathy, as a branch of physical science, we may assume that it will yet have much to contend with. Experience is sufficient to bring us to this conclusion, even if we could not see any of the direct causes from which difficulties may spring; but as some of these causes may even now be detected, it may be well to glance at them, and thus—in so far, at least, as they are concerned—to avert future disappointment.

It must be borne in mind, that the majority are apt in all cases, to judge rather from the narrow facts that may come immediately under their own observation, than from any process of comprehensive reasoning. We may present a man, day after day, with statistics concerning the fires that occur in the town where he resides, and show him by the clearest evidence the chances of such an accident, and the propriety of effecting an insurance; but although our statement may embrace several thousand instances, it will not have so powerful an effect as would be produced by the partial burning of a house within a few doors of his own. In like manner therefore, the majority of converts to Homœopathy will derive their faith, not from its broad evidences and a sense of the general reasonableness of the system, but from certain remarkable cases which they may chance to have seen with their own eyes. Now this kind of faith, although it is usually the most ardent while it lasts, is very uncertain and deceptive. The person who believes in Homœopathy because he has seen his neighbor's child cured, will be very enthusiastic so long as he finds similar results take place; but if one of his own family were to fall sick and die under Homœopathic treatment, this fact, more startling to his mind than any other, would assume a greater prominence than all that had gone before, and he would then be very likely first to grow cool to the system, and next to regard it with that kind of animosity which is peculiar to those who apostatize from a faith to

which they have once ardently belonged. He would not test the system by the proportionate mortality of an equal number of similar cases treated in the old way, and bear in mind, that under any method, a certain number of deaths must occur, and that he had made choice of that which experience shows to yield the most favorable results; but would only remember the one fact that had impressed him more than all others, namely, that his child had died,—a fact which he would never be able to render subordinate to a less personal and larger view. He has believed in the new system, merely because he has seen some cases of cure; and when a different result takes place, he has nothing to fall back upon. He has no argument to show that if Homœopathy has failed, every other method would certainly have failed also; while at the same time he feels, that if he had pursued the old system, he would have had the sanction of the world, from whom the death, occurring under "the best advice," and in the ordinary way, would then have called for no remark.

Recognising, therefore, that a large proportion of its converts will be of this description, we must expect a constant re-action against the system, which, although not ultimately hurtful, must have the effect of rendering its progress steady rather than rapid. All who fall away from the truth, produce at the time a greater effect than would result from the accession of twenty times their number: but we must remember, that by the withdrawal of those who are unfitted to act as its propagators, the real followers of the doctrine are rendered more compact, more cautious in selecting their allies, and more sensible of the necessity for constant efforts towards unfolding and perfecting it.

Another source of injury must arise from the fact, that not only many of its ordinary converts, will come under the above description, but also many of its professional ones. Practitioners converted rather from witnessing the effects of the treatment in a certain number of individual cases, than from the combined action of observation and reflection, will take up the system without any clear perception of the universal application of the law on which it rests; and will therefore be tempted, whenever any difficulty occurs, to seek to cut it short, by resorting to the old methods. Not being able to comprehend a general law, they will believe that Homœopathy is good "to a certain extent;" and when they find them-

selves unable to produce satisfactory results, they will attribute to an imperfection in the principle, that which proceeds solely from their own want of skill and experience in carrying it out. Circumstances have shown that conduct of this sort will eagerly be seized upon and exposed by the opponents of the system, and produce an effect upon the public. Exposures, indeed, of the inconsistencies of some Homœopathic practitioners have already been put forth, which, although correct in themselves, are liable to obstruct the cause, because they dishonestly represent Homœopathy to be implicated in the follies of all those by whom it may be professedly recognised and practiced.

It must also be born in mind that even when a practitioner thoroughly recognises the principle, much care and experience is requisite towards its successful application. It does not follow because a person places himself under a Homœopathic practitioner, that the remedies perfectly Homœopathic to his symptoms are sure to be hit upon,—or even if such should be the case, that they should be administered at such intervals or in such proportions as to effect a cure in the speediest possible way. Yet many persons, after taking one or two doses of medicine, would not hesitate to assert that they had "tried" Homœopathy, and thus utterly to condemn the system, because the practitioner had proved himself not infallible.

Another cause from which failures are liable may also be pointed out. In the treatment of disease there are many things to be attended to beyond the administration of medicine. Among these the most important is the regulation of diet. Now in this respect there are remarkable differences among Homœopathic practitioners. There is one body, for instance, who adopt the views of the Allopathists on this subject, and who coincide with Dr. Andrew Combe, Dr. Barlow, Dr. Forbes, Dr. Tweedie, and other eminent physiological writers of the old school, in maintaining that the diet of patients should always be regulated in strict conformity with their powers of digestion, and that in no case should food be given which the digestive organs are unable to deal with; while, on the other hand, there is a body who unequivocally repudiate this doctrine. This is not the place to attempt to decide between these conflicting opinions, (further, perhaps, than to remark, that the view of the first party, and of the authorities

above mentioned, is most in accordance with the Homœopathic principle; since when nausea and want of true appetite are amongst the symptoms, it would be anti-pathic to endeavor to overcome those symptoms by presenting stimulants to the palate); but it will be seen, that whichever doctrine is the correct one, those who follow its opposite must commit errors which, in critical cases, may lead to a fatal result, even when the medicines administered may have been perfectly well chosen. Until harmony of view, therefore, shall have been arrived at on important questions of this nature, failures must repeatedly occur under Homœopathic practitioners which, it is probable, the public will not sufficiently discriminate from the results of the medical treatment.

It must also be borne in mind, that Homœopathy lies under the disadvantage of demanding, on the part of those who come under its influence, an abstinence from many pernicious though agreeable habits of living; and that this will probably form no slight element of unpopularity. The Homœopathic practitioner does not permit his patient to counteract one medicine by taking another at the same time; nor does he recognise, that substances having a powerful medicinal action can at any time be desirable articles for healthy persons. Thus, strong tea, coffee, ale, wine and spirits, tobacco, &c.,—things which with some individuals, make up the greater part of life's enjoyments, are at all times discouraged, as tending to disturb health, while during treatment they are positively forbidden.

When, in addition to these considerations, we recognise the circumstance mentioned in the last chapter, that the great body of medical men have signified their determination not to look at the facts of Homœopathy; that the members of this body in London alone amount to upwards of two thousand, and that there is scarcely a family which has not some connexion with the profession likely to produce an influence in leading to a similar determination; that no medical man holding a public appointment can avow his conversion to Homœopathy without the danger of immediate dismissal; that in the metropolitan county of England it cannot be pursued without the chance of a Coroner's Inquest being called in cases of fatal termination, while the thousands who die daily under the opposite treatment are laid in their graves without inquiry; we shall see how much there is constantly to

operate prejudicially on the public mind in relation to the system, and at the same time to deter those of the profession who might be disposed to a candid course from undertaking the responsibility of its investigation.

It may also be remarked, that the advocates of the system will do well to anticipate many blows which will be dealt against it, the effects of which can only be partially counteracted. It will sometimes, probably, happen for them to hear an Allopathic practitioner declare in general society that he has tried the system, and found nothing in it.

A request that he will detail the nature of his experiments will soon enable a judgment to be formed of their value; but amongst ordinary persons, by whom he is looked up to, and when no Homœopathist is present, the bare assertion will be received as effectually settling the matter. It does not follow that, in putting forward this assertion, an attempt to mislead shall deliberately have been made; for the history of science affords many remarkable instances of the way in which persons setting about the commonest experiments with a desire to find them fail, do really obtain this gratification. When Newton announced his discovery of the composition of light, a person named Mariotte, who was very conversant with experiment, was amongst his most energetic opponents; and this philosopher had the misfortune, or good fortune, as he probably considered it, never to succeed in repeating the experiments by which the discovery was to be demonstrated.

It is likewise to be considered, that immediately after the first enunciation of any great principle, circumstances must constantly be expected to present themselves which may seem to be inconsistent with its action, and which it may consequently be difficult to reconcile. Thus to one who should hear, for the first time, of the law of gravitation, the circumstances of a balloon ascending, or of a fly walking on the ceiling, or of a spider extending its thread from a hedge, or across a road or brook, would seem at once to disprove its truth; whereas, upon his becoming fully acquainted with the processes by which these things take place, he would find that they offer the most complete illustrations of the law to which, at first sight, they appeared exceptions. When Jenner introduced vaccination, he found that there were some persons who had had the cow-pock, as they thought naturally, but who, nevertheless, were found

not to have been protected from the small-pox. The circumstance, at first, could not easily be explained, and hasty and credulous objectors would probably at once have run to the conclusion that his doctrine was overturned—but a little patience served to put the matter right. It turned out that there are several diseases communicated by the cow, and that the affection in question had not been of the same nature as that which formed the subject of the great discovery.

In conclusion, it only remains to urge upon those who recognise the doctrine, the responsibility which this recognition involves. It is not enough that they should use the truth, and congratulate themselves on the personal advantages they derive from it. It would never have reached them but for the exertions of others, and these exertions they are bound in turn to take up, so that the light which has been freely bestowed upon them may be as freely communicated to their fellows. It is a common thing for persons to dream of the good they would do if they had but the "opportunity;" but opportunity always lies at our feet if we had but the will to see it. At all events, let those who recognise Homœopathy never trust to the plea that means of usefulness have been denied to them. They must reflect that a great truth has been given to their charge; that this truth is not destined to perish; and that, if those who have been called to carry it forward falter in their task, the opportunity, now their own, will be snatched from them and given to others. If they avail themselves of its benefits, and deny it before the world, or coldly withhold acknowledgment of their belief, they will, doubtless, find their reward in the consciousness that they have maintained their popularity and discreetly sacrificed the future to the present. As slaves of opinion, however, it is their fate unfortunately never to know rest: they must shift their course with its shifting tides, and always be on the watch, lest at one time they commit themselves by acknowledging, and at another time by denying, too much;—while, on the other hand, he who relies upon truth, regardless of all else, occupies the same position when it becomes universally received, as he filled when it was universally contemned. He has, moreover, the consciousness of a task fulfilled; and, looking back at the close of life to the time when the doctrine which it was his privilege to receive was first struggling into view, and tracing it in its gradual

extension over the earth, he is able to ask himself, with a glad certainty of the reply, "What has been my portion in this great work?"

ELISHA BARTLETT, M. D., ON THE CERTAINTY OF MEDICINE.

Several Medical Journals (Allopathic) have noticed with much commendation the work of Dr. Elisha Bartlett, entitled "*An Inquiry into the Degree of Certainty in Medicine; and into the Nature and Extent of its Power over Diseases.*"

We have only read portions of the work, as they were found in the several reviews. Dr. B. has investigated, very closely, an interesting question: "What is our [Allopathic] practice worth?" His answer to this question will not, we think, be satisfactory, to the more intelligent of his own school. For the reason, he has not in all his facts, and arguments, advanced any thing to enhance confidence in Allopathic practice.

The following is an admission, we did not expect to find, only in that whining clique the New York Academy of Medicine.

"I am stating only what everybody knows to be true, when I say that the general confidence which has heretofore existed in the science and art of medicine, as this science has been studied, and as this art has been practised, has within the last few years been violently shaken and disturbed, and is now greatly lessened and impaired. The hold which medicine has so long had upon the popular mind is loosened; there is a wide-spread skepticism as to its power of curing diseases, and men are everywhere to be found who deny its pretensions as a science, and reject the benefits and blessings which it proffers them as an art."

Dr. B. did not deem it necessary, "to point out the causes and influences which have led to this state of things." Our own opinion is, that the progress of Homœopathy has been the chief cause in diminishing confidence in Allopathy. And, this good work will go on, if the advocates of the former, continue faithful to her principles in the practice. If not, not.

The *New York Journal of Medicine* for January, 1849, has an able review of the above work, by J. H. S. who he is, we do not know; whoever he may be, the review before us, shows him "no man's man." Dr. Bartlett is an advocate of bleeding, and the use of

Antimony in the treatment of pneumonia. In reference to which, J. H. S. says; "Now, supposing that we admit the whole of the conclusions deduced from M. Louis' observations, what is the amount of our information? simply, that out of a number of cases of pneumonia, those who are bled are more likely to recover than those who are not, and those who are bled early, are more likely to recover soon than those who are bled late."

"That to lessen the quantity of blood which passes through inflamed parts, is good for them is certain, provided we can secure plenty of good blood to heal them, when we require it. But we protest against this being considered proof of any positive knowledge on the subject of the disease and its treatment. *In what does inflammation of the lungs consist? What are the certain means of stopping that process and restoring the parts to health?* These are two questions which receive no answers from the results of bleeding."

An acute observer of disease and remedy, would perceive that as inflammation consisted in some disturbance of the circulation, and health consisted in the restoration of the circulation to its original condition, the *secret of remedy* would be found in the management of the cause of the circulation. The blood is not the cause of its circulation; for the self-same quantity of blood may be in the vessels when it does not circulate at all, as when it does most healthily, as daily instanced in convulsions, epilepsy, and so forth. *The taking away of blood does nothing directly but alter the quantity.*

Indirectly, by taking away the fluid which contains the life, we diminish the life itself, and the means of obtaining life, the respiration.—Bleeding, therefore, diminishes the quantity of life. Can a man have too much of life? It matters not, that from the days of Hippocrates down to now, bleeding has been adopted. It matters not, that it relieves the tension, and of necessity the pain of an inflamed part. It does not act upon the part diseased, producing any change in its condition. How, therefore can we designate it as a remedy?"

On the Tartar Emetic treatment of Pneumonia, J. H. S. says: "We honestly confess this goes as much against our stomach as the bleeding was against our heart. We have both given and taken considerable doses of this compound, and are able to appreciate its operation on the bodies of pneumonic patients." After a long quotation from Dr. Bartlett in favor of the Antimonial Treatment of Pneumonia, J. H. S. proceeds:

"We cannot say that we are one whit more in love with tartar emetic, than we were; and the mention of it always makes our 'gorge

rise." Much as Rasori, Lonis, Trousseau, and Grisolle, on the continent, are enraptured with it; much as the Elliotson and Clutterbuck school, in England, may patronize it, still we feel justified in denouncing its use.

For an art to claim the respect of a science by putting forth a statement that after the lapse of two thousand years, the best discovered mode of treating pneumonia, is by bleeding and giving large doses of tartar emetic; neither of which, nor both combined, can do more than mitigate the symptoms in a proportion of cases, is not to make out a strong case. The philosopher and philanthropist will scarcely recognise the claim, and a court of equity would hardly decree in favor of it if contested. It does not appear to us that such remedies are worth the time, attention and respect, which are claimed for them in so many colleges of learning and science throughout the world.

We remember a Professor of Toxicology, who announced that he had discovered a new test for arsenic, which he thought would be of immense importance. The medical world thronged to see the application of the test. Much time was employed in preparing and applying it, and all were on the tip-toe of expectation. The test was applied; but no phenomenon appeared. Again it was applied, but without the slightest effect. We ventured to suggest that the Professor might perchance have taken the wrong bottle. He assured us that he was correct. We ventured on another observation, that perhaps the test had not been properly prepared, or that there was no arsenic present in the substance tested. Both of these ignorant, not to say impudent suggestions, were rejected with disdain. We waited, and a pause ensued. The Professor, taking off his spectacles and passing his white handkerchief over his forehead, said, "Gentlemen, I have occasionally found this test cannot be relied upon; but usually it is a safe one!" Such are our remedies, only the sentence ought to be reversed. "Occasionally, they are useful, but in general they cannot be relied on."

J. H. S.' Review, will be so interesting to a homœopathic practitioner, that we transcribe, another branch of it.

"He, (Dr. Bartlett) groups diseases, and presents us with the ascertained effects of remedies.

His first group consists of such diseases as "common catarrh, simple acute diarrhœa, and simple jaundice." Of these he merely says—"They, may, generally, be safely let alone—but most of them may be favorably influenced by an appropriate medication." Modest enough, certainly, and agreed to.

His next group is "Functional dyspepsia, chorea, and chlorosis." The only thing which is adduced to prove our science, is in the following sentence: "If our science and art had done nothing more than to ascertain the effects of iron upon this malady, (chlorosis,) they would have presented a gift to humanity, tha

ought at least to shield them from the blind and bitter assaults of arrogant ignorance and wooden-headed stupidity."

The author's wheels are warming, we may expect some fire soon. The next group is "Sporadic dysentery, simple acute rheumatism, acute pleurisy, tonsillitis, catarrhal croup, and so on." Of these he says, we cannot do much for them, except give opium for dysentery, and an emetic for croup.

The fourth group "includes most of the serious local inflammations, and all the general fevers—continued, periodical and exanthematous. Whooping cough, Asiatic cholera, erysipelas and delirium tremens." We must here let our author speak out.

"These diseases differ so widely amongst themselves, in their relation to remedies, that it is difficult to speak of them in general terms. Some of them are more obviously and more uniformly influenced by remedies than others. There is no more doubt, for instance, of the favorable effects of blood-letting upon inflammation of the pericardium, of the liver, of the kidneys, than there is of these effects on pneumonia. There is no more doubt of the efficacy of wine, in certain stages and conditions of British typhus, than there is of the effects of antimony in pneumonia. Every day there are multitudes of patients with this disease, as directly and obviously saved from death by active stimulants, as the life of a famishing man is saved by food.

And we find here one of the most constant, and one of the most important therapeutic relations—I mean that between periodical fever and Peruvian bark. The power of opium to allay functional spasm, and to abate neuralgic pain; the antiphlogistic action of antimony, in inflammation of the lungs; the effects of an emetic in catarrhal croup, of iron in chlorosis, of wine in low typhus, are not more invariable and certain, than is the power of cinchona to control and arrest the periodical element, in the great family of malarious fevers. The simple forms of these diseases do, indeed, very commonly subside and cease; they rarely destroy life immediately and directly; but their repeated occurrence at length undermines and breaks down the constitution, while in their more violent manifestations, they are as suddenly fatal as yellow fever; and for the prevention of these results we have one reliable and heroic remedy—cinchona. Somewhat as I said of iron in chlorosis, this gift to humanity is a boon and a blessing, that ought to secure for medical science and medical art the deep and everlasting gratitude of the world."

"We single out a sentence for comment, and shall then pass to something else worth noticing. The sentence is this: "There is no more doubt of the efficacy of wine in certain stages and conditions of British typhus, than there is of the effects of antimony in pneumonia."

"To our mind, this is not saying much for the value of the wine. If wine be of any ser-

vice in these cases, it is solely on account of its property of imparting caloric to the solids and fluids of the body. However, as this is done by the decomposition and destruction of a portion of the organization, we hardly know how this agent can be fairly called a remedy. The tartrate of antimony decomposes the blood and solids of the body most fearfully. Witness the bloody vomitings and purgings which accompany its use. It forms a compound with the albumen, rendering it insoluble. The tissue thus is broken up, and the blood rushes through the gap. To us, it is an awful remedy.

"Our author confesses that 'confluent small pox, algid epidemic cholera, malignant scarlatina, and the adynamic and ataxic forms of typhus and typhoid fever, not only very frequently terminate in death, but they seem to be very little influenced, in any way by remedial measures.' Then we have another frank and large confession :

"Our fifth group is constituted by a most formidable and appalling catalogue of diseases—having no tendency towards a favorable termination; but little or not at all under the control of remedies; and self-limited only by death. To this class belong hydrophobia, epilepsy, traumatic tetanus, scirrhus and cancer, softening of the brain, tuberculous meningitis, phthisis, membranous croup, diabetes, albuminuria, and various structural lesions of the heart and other viscera. Most of these diseases are, in the present state of science, beyond the reach of medicine—some of them nearly, and others absolutely so. Amongst thousands of cases of hydrophobia, there are not half-a-dozen authentic examples of recovery; the disease has an invincible tendency towards death.'"

If the above be carefully analysed, it will be perceived, that by Dr. Bartlett's own showing, the true answer to the question "What is our practice worth? it is of no value. J. H. S. shows, that it is not only valueless, but pernicious. Iron is an uncertain remedy in *Chlorosis*, as we know, from our own observation. We could point to several cases, in which iron had been given daily for months, with no benefit whatever. Iron cannot cure *Chlorosis*.

Opium is not a remedy for Dysentery, and whoever relies upon it, will be deceived.—Nearly all those diseases in which Dr. Bartlett represents allopathy as powerless; homœopathy has cured; such as, *epilepsy, traumatic tetanus, scirrhus and cancer, phthisis, membranous croup, diabetes* and others. We can of our own knowledge, speak of the power of homœopathy to effect permanent cures of the diseases here named. What we have read of Dr. Bartlett's work has, more firmly, established us in the opinion, that allopathy is evil,

only evil, continually. He represents Dr. Forbes, as having done a bad thing, by publishing the paper entitled, *Allopathy, Homœopathy, and Young Physic*; but Dr. B. in another mode, has done more, much more, to destroy confidence in Allopathy, than did Dr. Forbes, therefore we recommend the reading of Dr. Bartlett's *Inquiry into the Degree of Certainty in Medicine, &c.*

OPIUM, TARTAR EMETIC, AND MERCURY, INJURIOUS, IN THE DOSES OF THE ALLOPATHIC SCHOOL.

The injurious effects of medicines on the human system as administered by Allopathic practitioners, apothecaries and others, are not understood by those who prescribe them, nor by those who receive them. There seems to exist a kind of mania among the people to swallow drugs. Apothecary shops, are almost as numerous in this city, as retail grocery stores, and the one is visited as often as the other, by the inhabitants who live in the vicinity of their locations. Thousands upon thousands, have found premature graves on account of drugs alone; and not a person in full health, can be found, who swallows drugs in emetic, cathartic and anodyne doses. This evil lies at the door of the allopathic school. Physicians of that school act, as if human health and life were of very little value or importance. This assertion we will prove, by well established facts, from among themselves. Dr. Beck, in a work lately published, entitled "*Infant Therapeutics*" speaks of the "effects of opium on the young subject," and says: "there is scarcely an article, in the whole range of the *Materia Medica*, capable of producing a greater amount of mischief." Dr. Beck enumerates the following cases: viz;—

"Dr. John Clarke states, that "half a drachm of genuine syrup of white poppy, and in some instances, a few drops of Dalby's Carminative, have proved fatal, in the course of a few hours, to very young infants." In one case, he says, forty drops of Dalby's Carminative destroyed an infant. Mr. Marley says, "I have known three or four instances where the most dangerous symptoms were produced by Godfrey's Cordial and Dalby's

Carminative; two nostrums which have no doubt added considerably to the mortality of infants." In a case that fell under his observation, the most rapid and alarming symptoms followed the exhibition of an ordinary dose of syrup of poppies. In another case, he knew half a small tea-spoonful of the syrup of poppies prove nearly fatal to a child eight or ten days old. Thirty-five drops of Dalby's Carminative, he has known to prove fatal to a young child, while, in other cases, larger doses have been given without any unpleasant effects. The same writer relates the case of an infant, nearly poisoned, by considerably less than half an ordinary sized tea-spoonful of paregoric. Dr. Bard says, he once knew an infant of several months old killed by ten drops of laudanum, and another brought into very great danger by less than two drops. Dr. Montgomery states, that he has known more than one instance in which a tea-spoonful of the syrup of poppies has proved fatal to a healthy child. Professor Hamilton relates two cases, in which four drops of laudanum proved fatal to children some months old. Dr. Merriman reports two cases, in which a dose of Godfrey's Cordial proved fatal. He also states, that he once saw a child in the month thrown into a state of excessive stupor, by taking one dose only of a mixture in which there were four drops of laudanum; the actual quantity swallowed could scarcely have amounted to one drop. Dr. Cristison states, that "the administration of three drops of laudanum in a chalk mixture for diarrhoea, to a stout child, fourteen months old, was followed by coma, convulsions and death in six hours." In another infant, a few weeks old, death resulted from taking four drops of laudanum. Dr. Ryan states, that he has known one drop of the "sedative liquor of opium" narcotize an infant. Of laudanum, two drops have been known to kill an infant, nay, in one case, a single drop destroyed a new-born infant. I have myself seen a young child narcotized by about twenty drops of paregoric."

Dr. B. has endeavored to reach some rule for the safe administration of opium; but in this he has utterly failed. The reason, to our mind, is obvious, human sufferings never require the anodyne effects of opium. The homœopathic remedy in the smallest dose will promptly relieve pain. We are not aware that opium, can ever be homœopathically in-

dicated to mitigate pain, or cure a diarrhoea, or to relieve the restlessness of infants. It is not at all adapted to any of the conditions in which it is employed in allopathic practice. That school is quite ignorant of the therapeutic use of opium. And, the mischief, which pertains to that drug, must continue, so long as it is prescribed antipathically. A few years ago, we were requested to see a lady, who the day previously, it was said, had a strangulated Hernia; and who had been attended by two eminent surgeons. When we saw her, there was no evidence of a Hernia; but she was actually dying of the effects of opium, which had been given her in a dose of sixty drops of laudanum. Here was a valuable life sacrificed by the ignorance of allopathy.

On Antimonial preparations, Dr. Beck remarks:—

"Dr. Clarke, of London, states that "a quarter of a grain of Tartrate of Antimony in solution, has been known to excite a vomiting which has ended in the death of a young child, which before was in no danger." Dr. Armstrong observes that he "has seen again and again, delirium produced by antimonial preparations, given so as to excite the mucous membrane of the stomach and intestinal canal in very young children." Dr. Hamilton advises, that "Tartar Emetic should never be given to infants, for alarming convulsions have followed its use." By Mr. Noble, of Manchester, a case is related, in which the death of a child, eleven months old, was owing to the effect of antimonial wine given as an emetic. Mr. Wilton, (surgeon to the Gloucester Infirmary) has also reported two cases of children, one a year old and the other four years old, which were manifestly destroyed by the use of antimonial wine given for ordinary colds. Slight convulsions—vomiting—diarrhoea—sudden prostration and death took place, notwithstanding the use of cordials and stimulants. I have known a case occurring in this city, in which the one thirtieth part of a grain of Tartar Emetic given to a child a year old, laboring under croup, produced such severe and protracted vomiting, together with general prostration, as to require stimulants to save life. Some years since I was called to see a child, about three years old, who had been attacked with scarlet fever. The symptoms at first were mild, and no dan-

ger was apprehended in the case, when it was suddenly taken with such alarming symptoms of prostration as to call for a consultation. On inquiry, I found that the attending physician had been prescribing small doses of Tartar Emetic. Notwithstanding the use of stimulants, the child died in an hour or two after I saw it. I then suspected, and have since been confirmed in the correctness of the suspicion, that the medicine had no little agency in bringing about the fatal result."

Dr. B. says, also, "The Hive Syrup of Dr. Coxe, which is now in every family, and is given on the slightest occasions to infants, without even consulting a physician, has, I am convinced, done a great deal of harm."—The principle ingredient in that syrup is Tartar Emetic. Here too Dr. Beck fails to give a rule of any value for the safe administration of Tartar Emetic, and notwithstanding his cautions in its use; it will, doubtless, be still employed by allopathists, to the injury of thousands.

From the same work we quote: "That Mercury is an agent of immense power, either for good or evil, upon the human constitution, cannot be questioned. While in many cases it is the means of saving life, in not a few it unquestionably destroys it."

"Although mercury so seldom salivates infants, yet, notwithstanding this, it cannot be doubted that it affects the system profoundly, and even more so proportionally than it does the adult."

"What shows incontestibly that the action of mercury is actually more energetic on the infant than the adult, is the fact, that when salivation does take place in the former, as it sometimes does, its effects are most disastrous. Sloughing of the gums and cheeks, general prostration and death are by no means uncommon occurrences. On this subject, Dr. Blackall justly remarks, "a general opinion prevails, that the constitutions of young subjects resist mercury. Its entrance into the system they certainly do resist, more than we could expect: but they are greatly overcome by salivations, and the possible occurrence of such accidents may well set us constantly on our guard." Dr. Ryan, too, says, "Ptyalism of infants is often followed by sloughing of the gums and cheeks; and this I have known to occur after the use of it in Hydrocephalus."

"The fact that mercury may prostrate and

destroy a young child, even though it does not cause salivation, is to be feared is not sufficiently appreciated, at least by some. I have known calomel given without weight or measure, to a young child, and the reason assigned to justify it was, that it could do no harm because it would not salivate. Now it appears to me that no opinion can be more unfounded, and no practice more mischievous. Although a single dose of calomel, even though large, may be well borne by children of ordinary strength of constitution, yet even this is not entirely safe in all cases. And when these doses are frequently repeated, particularly in delicate habits, the most serious consequences may result.

The use of mercury in young subjects as an alterative, should in all cases be conducted with great caution. There is no practice more common than that of continuing the use of this agent in small doses, for a considerable time, and certainly none which is more liable to abuse. Under the idea that the dose is so small and from no salivation appearing, we are apt to infer that even if the medicine is not doing any good it is certainly not doing any harm. Any improvement too, which occurs during the use of the article, is sure to be attributed to the silent operation of it on the system. Now although this is not unfrequently the case, yet it is not invariably so; and every observing physician must have been aware of cases, in which, in this way, the article has been unnecessarily and injuriously continued. In bowel complaints, under the idea of altering the secretions, it has frequently, no doubt, helped to keep up the very intestinal irritation which it was given to correct. In other cases it has developed the latent tendency to other diseases, such as Scrofula, Phthisis Pulmonalis, etc. In adults we know this to be very often the case. How much more likely is all this to happen in the young infant."

"Mercury should be administered with great caution, in cases where a child has been sick for a considerable length of time, and when the strength of the child has been very much reduced. In this state of constitutional depression, a single cathartic dose of calomel sometimes proves fatal. We think we have seen more than one case, in which a child has been irretrievably prostrated under these circumstances, under the false impression that calomel is an innocent purgative to a child.

The too common practice of giving calomel

as an ordinary purge, on all occasions, is certainly unjustifiable. From the facility with which it may be given, it is unquestionably resorted to in a great number of cases, where it is unnecessary, and in a great number where it positively does harm. The misfortune is, that its use is not limited to an occasional dose, but it is too often given in every slight indisposition of the child. Now, in this way, there can be no question that the use of it has laid the foundation for the ruin of the constitutions of thousands."

We will not weary our readers, by quotations from other allopathic authors, on the same subjects. Dr. Beck's Work is the latest, and the best. He presents enough of facts, to show that in the absence of a therapeutic law, for the administration of Opium, Tartar Emetic and Mercury; (and he does not pretend that such a law exists in his school;) their use at all times, and under all circumstances, is too hazardous; proving thereby, that the Physicians of that school act, as if human health and life, were of little value or importance.

DRUG DISEASES.

It will require faithfulness, and much labor to convince the people, that large doses of drugs, however compounded, are injurious to health, and tend to shorten life. There is no subject, probably, about which, there is so little correct reasoning, as the application of remedial agents to diseases. "A dose of Calomel" says one, "always puts me right." "I am subject to bilious attacks" says another, "and I am compelled to take calomel or blue pill, which invariably causes me to feel better. Every physician, is familiar, with such remarks; and they remind us of a person, who advocated the use of brandy as a medicine; "I have," said he, "drank it daily, for the last twenty-four years, and nothing else relieves me." Indeed sir, we replied, you have persevered astonishingly, in the use of your medicine, but it has not cured you yet, and most likely, you are at this moment further from a healthy state, than you were twenty-four years ago. We have known many calomel and blue pill eaters, but have never known one in health. The thing is impossible.

None of the *causes* of disease, are so inimi-

cal to life—as drugs. This fact is stamped upon the minds of men generally. Who that wishes to die quickly, will go into an intermittent fever miasm, or that of yellow fever, or even that of cholera? No one thinks of such agents, to effect suicide. But the work of death can be accomplished quickly, by a small quantity of arsenic, or corrosive mercury, or prussic acid, or opium, or some other drug, as every one knows.

Drugs induce diseases peculiar to themselves; and although these diseases resemble those from other causes, yet they are always much more severe. When a drug disease, and a natural one, meet in the same organ of the human body, death must be the consequence, sooner or later.

Take a clearly marked case of diseased liver, and administer mercury, until its specific effects are produced, and although there may be a seeming favorable change in the affection; yet, a cure is not effected, as hundreds can testify. Often we meet with cases of liver disease, quite incurable on account of a mercurial disease, which has fixed itself in that organ in connection with the original disturbance.

Look at those, in whom symptoms of incipient phthisis were recognised; and who took mercury, or quinine, or iodine, or hydriodate of potash, or sulphur, or phosphorus, or hydrocyanic acid, in quantities sufficient to induce the pathogenesis of these drugs; and how soon, how very soon, did consumption become developed in an incurable form. The unscientific allopathic practice, and the large dose homoeopathic practice, do immense mischief in those, predisposed to tubercular disease.

Take cases of Rheumatism, where mercury has been given to salivation. The Rheumatism seems to yield, and for awhile the patient is free of pain; but his looks and actions to the experienced eye, indicate any thing but health. After a few weeks, or at most a few months, pains come at night in the extremities, accompanied with sweat; he becomes weaker and weaker; medicine affords not even a mitigation of his sufferings, except large doses of opium, or some of its preparations; which, relieves the pain, but increases the sweat, and in this respect joins with the mercurial disease, and emaciation and debility set in fearfully; and finally an organic injury takes place, usually of the lungs, and the scene is soon closed by death: and the

Doctor's certificate reads, "died of consumption." Most of the thousands of incurable chronic diseases, have been manufactured of natural and drug diseases in combination. These may go on together in the human system, and terrible are their effects, especially so, when the drugs happen to be homœopathic to the original disease.

Hahnemann uttered a great truth, when he said; the smallest dose of a remedy is the most suitable. Reason; founded on the therapeutic law, and experience, establishes this doctrine. The most brilliant cures of which homœopathy can boast, were affected by the smallest doses; and these cures, in most instances, took place without sensible affects of the remedies, hence, the importance of the rule,—not to repeat the medicine, while the patient is improving. Diseases yield to the remedy oftener without, than with a medicinal aggravation; this is experience, in every day practice, and shows that the smallest dose is the best. The smallest dose of a drug, cannot induce a medicinal disease of sufficient intensity to do harm to the organism by itself or in union with the natural disease; at the same time, it is sufficiently potent, to change dynamic derangements of the human system, when brought within the law *similia similibus curantur*. It is to our mind, almost unaccountable, how any one accustomed to reason, should acknowledge the law of cure, and reject the smallest doses as the most suitable. For example; a decided case of inflammation of the stomach, would probably, indicate *Arsenic* as the remedy. Would any sane man, give it in drop doses of Fowler's solution, or of the 1st, 2d or 3d triturations of the homœopathic preparations? We doubt if any one would do so. The very first dose would be of the 30th attenuation; and in this day of high potencies, probably the 200th would be the choice. These last would cure the disease in a few hours; whilst the former with the exception perhaps of the 3d trituration, would not only fail to cure, but would aggravate the case, and destroy life. It is not reasonable to assume, that because other diseases are less violent, therefore we can play upon them, with large and repeated doses of drugs, with exemption from injury. Human bodies are full of testimony to the contrary. Most chronic diseases in which homœopathic physicians are consulted, have been previously medicated, and thereby many of them are rendered incurable. Numerous instances,

where there was a hereditary predisposition to phthisis pulmonalis, and the incipient symptoms present, but no previous medication, have yielded to a few doses of the appropriate remedy in the 30th attenuation. We have known permanent cures of this disease, by the smallest doses of medicine, even where there were, emaciation, debility, and a hacking cough;—three things, when existing together, signify the presence of phthisis pulmonalis—but there had been no previous medication by large doses.

In other cases of the same disease, where much medicine has been taken, although it was idle to look for a cure; but even here, the smallest doses of the homœopathic medicine would palliate the sufferings, and occasionally keep the disease in check for years. An instance of this kind happened in our own practice; where life was protracted for nearly twelve years, with the presence of the clearest evidence of phthisis. The medicines administered, always relieved the urgent symptoms. Previously to our attendance, this patient had been twice salivated by mercury, for her chest affection. As evidence of the curative power of the smallest doses, we will mention another case, which was pronounced incurable beyond all question, by five allopathic and three homœopathic practitioners, ourself among the number; but even this case in about one year, was actually permanently cured by Sulphur and Phosphorus in the 30th, 200, 800 and 2000 attenuations. This case, was a merchant of this city, it is now three years since, and we defy the closest scrutiny to detect any vestige of disease in him. It was as absolute a cure as we ever saw. This gentleman had never taken Mercury or any other medicine, except a few doses of Cinchona some fifteen years ago. Here was one of the most striking instances of the curative power of the smallest doses, in a usually fatal disease; but there was no drug disease, to act in conjunction with the natural one; if there had been, we do not doubt, he would have died.

The sum of this article is; that drugs, as usually administered in large doses, always tend to injure health, and destroy life.

That chronic diseases are often made so by drugs; and a large proportion of such, are thereby rendered incurable.

That the smallest doses of the homœopathic preparations of medicines, are sufficiently

potent, to palliate sufferings, or to effect cures, and are not liable to do harm to the organism.

Experiments made to ascertain the Prophylactic Properties of Belladonna.

In 1812, a fatal epidemic of scarlatina reigned in the district of Hilschenbach, in the duchy of Berg. Dr. Schenk was requested to give his assistance as a medical man, and administered belladonna to 525 persons. Of these, 522 were preserved. The three who were attacked with scarlet fever, were a mother and her two children, who had only taken the medicine four times, and had been much exposed to the contagion. As Dr. Schenk was desirous of carefully testing the prophylactic virtues of belladonna, he wrote to Hahnemann for directions. Hahnemann sent him three grains of carefully prepared extract, which were to be triturated in a small mortar, with an ounce of distilled water: to this an ounce of distilled water and an equal quantity of alcohol was to be added. A drop of this was to be added to 3 ounces of distilled water and an ounce of alcohol. In this form it was to be given, the dose being one drop to children under nine years, and two drops to those above that age, every three or four days.

Rhodus, in an epidemic in Altenkinden, gave perfect immunity to all the individuals to whom he administered this substance.—Hufeland, in noticing the statement of Rhodus, says: "I am also acquainted with a quarter in which, during the prevalence of a very severe scarlet fever, the preservative of Hahnemann was tried, and where all who tried it were protected from the disease. The fact is worthy of the greatest attention, and deserves to be frequently tested; for to allow ourselves to be prejudiced by the circumstance of the minute dose, would be to forget that we are treating of dynamic effects—effects upon a living body, which no one can appreciate by pounds or grains." (*Hufeland's Journal*, May 1812.)

Gumpert, physician at Posen, in an epidemic in 1817, preserved his 4 children, and 20 families, amounting to about 80 individuals. Two persons, were, however, attacked, but very mildly. In one, the belladonna had only been used for some days; in the other case, the disease declared itself in the second

week of the employment of the belladonna. Gumpert senior states in a report to the government, that he prevented the introduction of the epidemic into several villages, by administering the medicine continuously at the proper time. He remarked that, in those villages where the epidemic had already appeared, the employment of this substance rendered the scarlatina very mild. In the district where he practices, the public have as much confidence in it as in vaccination, and the local authorities are ordered to furnish gratis this medicine. The dose employed by the Gumperts was about a tea-spoonful morning and evening of a solution of one grain of extract of belladonna, in four ounces of orange water, and one of alcohol. (*Biblioth. Med.* t. lxx. p. 114.)

In the very fatal epidemics of 1817, 1818, and 1819, Berndt, physician at Custrin, made use of two preparations of *Belladonna*, in the one there was 2 grains of the extract to an ounce of cinnamon water; in the other 3 grains. The dose varied from 2 to 12 drops morning and evening. His trials gave the following results. Out of 192 children who were constantly exposed to the contagion, and who took the first preparation, 14 were attacked, and 181 preserved.

With the second preparation, given to a large number of individuals, similarly situated, he preserved them all.

The few who contracted the scarlatina had the disease very mildly. (*Hufeland's Journal*, July 1820.)

Dr. Muhrbeck of Demmin, (Western Pomerania) says, "It is now seven years since I employed *belladonna* as a prophylactic against scarlet fever, and always with equal success.

Every time that the fever showed itself in a family, I administered *belladonna* to all the persons exposed to the contagion, being careful to continue it until the entire desquamation of the patients affected with the fever. I also used the same preservative in houses where it had not as yet appeared, and I can state, from an experience of seven years, that all who took the *belladonna* were preserved from the scarlet fever."

The dose employed by Dr. Muhrbeck was to children, 1 to 5 drops, and to adults 5 to 10, four times a day, of a solution of 2 grains of *bell.* to an ounce of water. (*Revue Medicale*, t. ii. p. 381.)

One of the authors whose observations are the best calculated to prove the prophylactic

efficacy of *belladonna* is Dr. Dusterberg of Warbourg. In three consecutive epidemics, this practitioner preserved from contagion all the individuals who made use of this remedy, although they were allowed to visit and keep company with the sick. He therefore regards this practice as certain a prophylactic as vaccination. To be more certain of his results, Dusterberg made a still more conclusive experiment; he chose, in each family submitted to the prophylactic treatment, a child who had not taken *belladonna*; all the children thus excepted were attacked by the contagion. Dusterberg adds, it is true that several other children, who had only used the remedy for four or five days, were also attacked, but so feebly that the only trace of the scarlatina was the subsequent desquamation. Among several of those who were preserved, there appeared an eruption a little analogous to scarlatina, but unattended by fever, which was only the effect of the *belladonna* observed by Hehnemann. (*Revue Medicale*, 1824, t. ii, p. 371, *art. de M. Martini*.)

ERIE, PA., Feb. 6th, 1849.

DR. S. R. KIRBY,

Dear Sir:—Reading, as I so often do, accounts in your journal of the increasing success, and progress of Homœopathy in every section of the world, cheers me on, in the path I have chosen, as one in which I can most benefit my fellow men.

Spending, as I did, some four years, in swallowing and attempting to assimilate the crude doses of allopathic knowledge to be found in the library of a New England country physician, my understanding was confused and my heart turned against such labyrinthian wanderings, and now until the clear light of truth from Hahnemann's *Organon* shone full upon me, did I see clearly the path that lies before every true physician of mankind. Even then, when fully "under conviction," I was unaware of the great spread of this truth. I saw its "divinity" and embraced it. I welcomed it as a messenger from heaven.

How many of those in pursuit of medical knowledge are ignorant of the universality of Hahnemann's doctrine. Every day we hear wise professional men gravely asserting that homœopathy is on the decline in Europe, and many other such expressions, men, too, who never looked into a homœopathic author or journal.

I commenced the practice of homœopathy

in this borough nearly three years ago, and during that time have witnessed the gradual, but sure increase of its popularity. Until now, out of a population of 6000, I can count for it the patronage of the best families of the place. Those who think and investigate for themselves, and do not take everything their doctors tell them for law.

It would be needlessly trespassing on your time and patience for me to detail any of the numerous cases of different forms of disease, that have occurred in my practice. Yet I am strongly tempted to make mention of a case of "Cancer of the Uterus," which I have treated homœopathically, and with every indication of a permanent cure. Although the diagnosis of this disease is attended with some difficulty without the aid of the speculum. Yet in this case the symptoms were too well marked to have any doubts on the subject.

There was the peculiar complexion and appearance of the surface which characterized the cancerous diathesis. Several of the family had suffered from scirrhus diseases, before her, and a great-grandparent had died from a similar affection. Some of the prominent symptoms were, great prostration and debility, not being able to sit longer than fifteen or twenty minutes, at a time. Walking and sitting brought on palpitation of the heart and spasms of the diaphragm. Jarring as by another person walking heavily in the room, caused great anguish and pain, through the pelvic region. A constant discharge of purulent matter from the vagina. Cutting pains extending to the loins and down the thighs. Tuberculous condition of the cervix of uterus. Burning, during urinating, alternate constipation and diarrhœa. Aggravation of all the symptoms, at menstrual periods which were comparatively regular, &c. Only one of the several allopathists who had treated this case, had pronounced it cancer. This case had been treated, with large doses of Fowler's Solution of Arsenic, among other remedies used. Duration of disease nearly three years. The remedies I used, were Arsenicum, China and Sepia, high attenuations, and here let me bear witness to the antidotal effects of the high potencies to the poisoning of the crude drugs. No remedy exerted a more beneficial influence on the above case than arsenic. Length of time under homœopathic treatment was about 16 months. Patient free from all the above symptoms, and enabled to walk several miles. As I

have occupied space enough in this letter I will close. Hoping and looking for the universal spread of truth.

I remain very respectfully,

NELSON SEYMOUR, M. D.

From Quarterly Homœopathic Journal.

HOMŒOPATHY IN RUSSIA.

Homœopathy has spread, and is spreading in this country more extensively than in almost any other. This is principally owing to the favor it found early, in the eyes of the numerous nobility. The cities have their quota or physicians of course, but in no country of Europe is there such a scarcity of physicians in the interior, as in Russia. Even in the provinces immediately adjoining, and between Moscow and St. Petersburg, for hundreds of miles, no physician can be found, although the districts are pretty well peopled.

Of course the old women play an important part, and do incalculable mischief by the use of mercury, zinabar, vitriol and nitric acid, as I have had opportunities to witness. Consequently, the nobility have introduced homœopathy in their domestic practice; the more wealthy engaging homœopathic physicians to take care of the serfs, the others dealing out the pellets themselves, according to domestic guides. Much as I condemn lay practice as a general thing, in these cases I consider it a blessing, because if no physician can be had, it is better that the nobles should administer our medicines from their family medicine chest, than calomel, opium, Dovers' powders, &c., as they formerly did.* The number of landed proprietors who are thus changing their system is greatly increasing every year, a fact which is evident from the large quantities of homœopathic medicines that are constantly being sent into the country by the homœopathic drug-stores in St. Petersburg and Moscow. But not only the intrinsic value of the system, and the brilliant results it has achieved, have caused it to spread so widely over Russia: the very little persecution it has received has had a great deal to do with it. More or less it has of course met with opposition from allopaths, but as government did not choose to support them in their crusade, they continue the war only in an underhand manner.

In the country then, homœopathy is wholly dependant on the nepotism of the nobility.

The serf can neither read nor write, and therefore, it cannot be said that the practice is popular among the lower orders; they take whatever their masters bid them take. Another reason why the practice has been so generally adopted on the estates, is to be found in the exceedingly simple, primitive mode of life led by the peasant, which affords the medicines to afford a fair chance to exercise their curative virtues.

In the cities, there is a different state of things; several large cities are without a homœopathic physician, though none without amateur practitioners. In St. Petersburg, Moscow and Riga, homœopathy has made most rapid strides, particularly in the Capital and though as yet it cannot compete with Vienna it soon will. If I tell you that one druggist here, puts up 18000 prescriptions annually you may get some idea of the extent of homœopathic practice here.

As in all countries, so here also, the educated classes of society chiefly, are the patrons of the system, and contribute towards its spread. It is really incomprehensible how so many physicians who are so well educated, who are honest, and are very intelligent, turn their faces away from homœopathy merely because of the small doses determined not to investigate the system. Did not Dr. Seidlitz, an eminent physician, when in a private family, a splendid cure homœopathy was proved to him *ad oculus*, cover his eyes with his hands, and run away exclaiming, "I will not see anything, I will know nothing!"

In St. Petersburg, one-half of a female hospital is under the charge of a homœopathic physician, Dr. Stender. The minister of the Interior wished to place the whole under his hands, but the Dr. desired the present arrangement for the sake of comparison of the two methods of treatment.

Government has determined to make official investigation of the superiority of homœopathy; trustworthy witnesses are to attest the results, and in the medical department of the ministry, a programme has been drawn up which I will duly send you, together with the results obtained.

Government throws no obstacles whatever into the practice of homœopathy; it has licensed the sale of homœopathic medicines, and amongst the medical councillors, who compose the medical board in the ministry of the Interior, a homœopathist has been appointed.

Homer, N. Y., Feb. 29, 1849.

FRIEND KIRBY,

Enclosed I send my subscription for your valuable journal and solicit its continuance. Our cause is onward and upward, and must prevail. The practice in this vicinity is still on the increase and new proofs are every day arising of the efficiency and truth of Nature's established law, "*similia similibus curantur*." I send you a history hastily drawn up, of a case which had been a subject of some note for a few weeks past.

The patient, an infant, 6 months old, was when ten weeks old, attacked with symptoms of pneumonia, which lasted two or three days and became better. Yet on raising the child it manifested dyspnea and suffocation, which condition it remained in some days, when it was attacked on Sunday with vomiting. On Tuesday, following, at 3 P. M. attacked with convulsions. Spasms and convulsions continued until Monday following, when there commenced an intermission which continued one week, after which vomiting again recurred, and continued, notwithstanding the faithful application of all the allopathic means for seven or eight days, when she was again attacked with convulsions which lasted four or five days. This frightful condition of things continued some two or three weeks, and allopathic prescriptions were being used, and the same accession and remission alternated until the physician told the family that nothing more could be done for the child, and that its death might hourly be expected, as the child had become frightfully emaciated, when a homœopathic physician then visiting in the vicinity was summoned to the rescue. It not being convenient for him to see the child that day, he heard a relation of its condition by the father and decided to send medicine.

From the description given by the father, a farmer, although the attending physician had admitted that he could not discover any seat for the disease; he conjectured that there must be a cause for all those effects, and that cause was at work on some of the cerebral membranes, and sent the patient Bell. 30, promising to see the child on some fitting day. From that day, the symptoms abated rapidly and obviously, and on Feb. 3d, I visited the patient for the first time, though I had sent the medicines on the descriptions of its friends.

Feb. 3d. I find the head, especially the frontal region exceedingly enlarged; the Ante-

rior Fontanelle open to a very unnatural extent. Coronal Sutures open on either side an inch. Sagittal Sutures at posterior edge of anterior fontanelle, open 3-4 of an inch. Distance from top of ear on one side to top on the other, 11 inches. Circumference of head an inch above the ears, 19 inches. I am thus particular in describing this case for the reason that now the child from the repeated use of Bell. and Sulph. has become fleshy and has had good appetite; bowels in good condition; which seems to prove that the disease has arrested, although such evidence of former organic lesion is present. No amelioration of the condition of the patient, took place until after the administration of Bell. then the improvement was decided, and thus far has been permanent. W. R. BROWN, M. D.

The above interesting case, would have appeared long ago; but it was mislaid. This is our apology to Dr. Brown for the delay.

ED.

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One more number will complete the present volume of this journal. The circulation of the "American Journal of Homœopathy," is equal to any medical journal in the country. And new subscribers have been received almost daily for the last few weeks, for the 4th volume which will be published on the 1st of May next.

On account of inattention on our part, in not adhering to the terms, of payment in advance, several hundreds of subscribers are yet in arrears for the past volumes. This ought not so to be; and as some few have taken offence, at our sending bills by mail, although we had no other means at command, to remind such of their indebtedness, we intend to remedy this evil by a strict adherence to the terms. Let it, therefore be understood, that the 4th volume, not even the 1st number will be mailed to any one, unless the subscription be previously paid. The amount is so small, that we do not doubt, that subscribers will most cheerfully comply with this reasonable arrangement. We have a few copies of Vols. 1, 2, and 3 at \$1 each. Whoever desires information of the doctrines and practice of homœopathy cannot obtain it, in a more concise form than in these volumes. Orders may be sent by mail or otherwise, to the editor, 762 Broadway.

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No. 468 Broadway, corner of Broome street. J. T. S. Smith has a large assortment of Homœopathic Medicines, in tinctures, triturations, dilutions and globules; Arnica flowers; Sugar of Milk, Pure Alcohol, Distilled Water, Pellets, &c., &c. Physician's Pocket and Family Cases of Medicine on hand, and prepared to order. Homœopathic Plasters a substitute for ordinary Court and Adhesive Plaster, and an excellent application for Corns.

C. L. RADEMACHER, 39 North 4th street, between Arch and Cherry streets Philadelphia, Agent for the Leipsic Homœopathic Medicines, respectfully informs the Homœopathic Physicians and the friends of the Homœopathic system, that he has always on hand a good assortment of Homœopathic Medicines in their different preparations, viz: Tinctures, Triturations, Dilutions, and medicated Pellets.

Medicine Chests of different sizes for Physicians, with Tinctures and Triturations, Dilutions, or medicated Pellets. Also constantly on hand, Family Medicine Chests to suit, Hering's Domestic Physician; Laurie's Homœopathic Domestic Medicine; Epp's Domestic Homœopathy; Newman's Homœopathic Family Assistant; and the Family Guide. Also Refined Sugar of Milk, Alcohol, Vials of different sizes, Corks, Labels, &c.

OTIS CLAPP, No. 12 School-st., Boston, has on hand, and for sale wholesale and retail, a large assortment of Homœopathic Medicines, in tinctures, triturations, dilutions and globules; Arnica flowers, sugar of milk, pure alcohol, distilled water, pellets, etc. Physician's pocket and family cases of medicines on hand and prepared to order, also a complete assortment of Homœopathic Books which are offered to the trade, and at retail as low as can be purchased elsewhere.

HOMŒOPATHIC PHARMACY.

Chicago, Ill.

B. H. BARTLETT Agt. respectfully informs Homœopathic Physicians, and others, that he has for sale, warranted, the principal HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES, in their different triturations and dilutions; Pure Spirits of Wine, for preparing and preserving medicines; Distilled water, prepared for immediate use; Refined Sugar of Milk; Pure Globules or Pellets, Vials, Corks, Diet Papers and Labels. Arnica Flowers and Arnica plaster.

Cases and single vials refilled, and Physician's and Family Medicine chests on hand, and put up to order. All orders by mail or otherwise for any of the above articles, or for any Homœopathic publications, promptly attended to.

J. F. DESILVER, 112 Main St. Cincinnati, Ohio, is the Agent for the West, of the Homœopathic Pharmacy at Leipsic. Physicians and others can always be supplied at this establishment with pure medicines adapted to the homœopathic system of treatment; medicine chests suited to Dr. Hering's Domestic Physician; refined sugar of milk, &c. Also Agent for the American Journal of Homœopathy edited by Drs. Kirby and Snow. New York; a semi-monthly publication at one dollar a year and adapted to lay readers.

GENERAL AGENCY of the Central Homœopathic Pharmacy at Leipsic for the United States, No. 322 Broadway. Wm. Radde respectfully informs Hom. Physicians and the friends of the System, that he is the sole Agent for the Leipsic Central Homœopathic Pharmacy, and that he has always on hand a good assortment of the best Homœopathic Tinctures and Medicines in their different Triturations and Dilutions: also Physician's Pocket and Family Medicine Cases, containing from 27 to 300 vials. Pure Spirits of Wine. Fine Vials, different sizes, and made of white glass. Corks. Diet Papers. Labels Homœopathic Chocolate. Arnica Plaster, an excellent application for Corns. Also an assortment of Hom. Books, in English, German, and French as Jhar's Manual of Hom. Practice, in 2 vols., By A. Gerard Hull, M. D. Hahnemann's Chronic Diseases, in 5 vols., by Ch. J. Hempel, M. D. Hahnemann's Materia Medica, 2 vols., by Ch. J. Hempel, &c.